

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 19, 2023



FUN DAY

TIMES



At 'Bugs & Birds' Field Day

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara



COMPETITIONS
PAGES 2 & 4



NATURE
PAGE 3

(ONLINE)



ANIMALS
PAGE 5

KIDS NEWS

PAGES 7 - 8

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Please send competition entries to:

Funday Times
C/O the Sunday Times
P.O. Box 1136, Colombo.
Or
8, Hunupitiya Cross Road,
Colombo 2.

Please note that competition entries are accepted by email.

Please write the name of the competition and the date clearly at the top of your entry and include the following details:

Full Name (including Surname),
Date of Birth, Address,
Telephone No. and School.

Please underline the name most commonly used.

All competition entries should be certified by a parent or guardian as your own work.

Competition entries without the full details requested above, will be disqualified.

Closing date for this week's competitions:
December 6, 2023

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



Christmas Cover 2023

Hey Kids! It is time once again to think about the Funday Times Christmas Cover. We invite our readers to send in paintings for the Christmas Cover 2023 Competition.

Entries for the Christmas Cover should be of a suitable Christmas theme.

You could use any type of paints or crayons you like but try to make your picture colourful and creative. **All entries should be on A4 size paper.**

Please write 'Christmas Cover' at the back of your picture, along with your **Name, Date of Birth, Address, Telephone Number (if any) and School.**

All paintings entered for this competition should be certified as your own work by a parent or teacher. Uncertified paintings will not be considered for the prize.

The best picture will adorn the cover page of our Christmas issue.

The winner will also receive a prize.

This competition is open to children between 4 - 15 years of age.

Good luck and happy painting!

Or fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Closing Date :
December 15, 2023



All 'Bout Children Montessori celebrated World Children's Day on October 7, 2023 at the school premises with many children's items such as games, face painting, singing and dancing to live music.

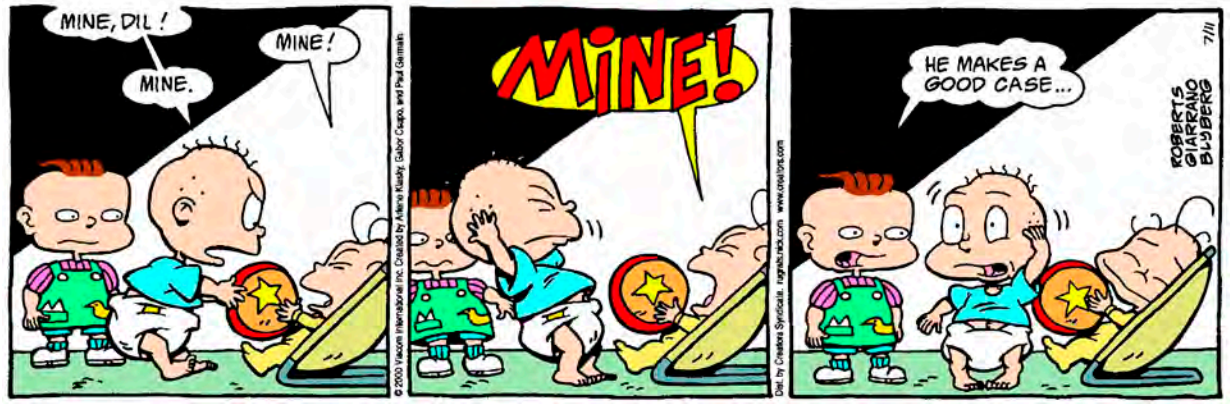
All 'Bout Children Montessori as the name suggests is all about children. Affiliated to Association Montessori Internationale (AMI), it is situated on the premises of the Ceylon School for the Deaf and Blind in Ratmalana. Founded in 2019 by Ms. Nirmalenee Gupta, the main objective of this venture is to educate all students (both able and differently-able children), where they would mix and learn together using AMI methods.

In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – Animals
- **Page 6** – Reports
- **Page 7** – Kids News
- **Page 8** – News in Pictures

Please log on to the Funday Times website on www.fundaytimes.lk or check out the Sunday Times epaper on www.sundaytimes.lk for additional pages of this week's Funday Times.

Rugrats



'Bugs & Birds' Field Day

A field day and educational programme titled 'Bugs & Birds' organized by The Sri Lanka Natural History Society was held on November 12, at Diyasaru Park, Thalawathugoda.

Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara



Kekulu Kinder ART COMPETITION - 2023

Application Form

Child's Full Name :

Date of Birth :

Permanent Address and Telephone Number :

Email Address :

Kindergarten Name and Address :

Kindergarten Principal's Name :

Phone Number :

Kindergarten Email :

District :

Kindergarten Principal's Signature :

1. Eligible only for children of 2 ½ to 5 years of age.
 2. Competition topic is 'Our Family'.
 3. Drawing can be submitted only on an A4 sheet using pastels only.
 4. Should be certified by the Kindergarten Principal, that the drawing is done by the child.
 5. It is mandatory to paste the application to the back of drawing.
 6. Certificates are given only for drawings where application form is filled correctly.
 7. The product wrappings and the drawing to be enclosed in an envelope without stapling together and sent to the following address before 30th November 2023.
 8. Address: Hettigoda Industries (Pvt) Ltd., No. 33/3, Sri Dharmarama Road, Ratmalana.
 9. It is important to have filled the application form correctly. If not, the drawing will be rejected.
 10. Any clarifications on the competition, please call Yuresh on 077 244 0442 or Isuru on 077 261 3255.
- It is mandatory to include a product wrapping from any of the following product categories, to partake in the competition.



Kekulu Baby Soap



Kekulu Toothpastes



Kekulu Baby Cologne



Kekulu Toothbrush



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Kekulu Baby Soap 5 in 1

* Important Notice – To all Kindergarten Principals, please ensure that all drawings are submitted with the correct product wrappings to the above address before 30th November, 2023.

Tomahawk

Quiz No. 213

Questions for Tomahawk Quiz No. 213 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times print issue and e-papers of October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2023.

All you have to do is to find the answers to the questions given. Write the answers neatly on a postcard, cut the strip 'Tomahawk Quiz No. 213' seen at the top of this page and paste it on your postcard. Please get your entries certified as your own work by a teacher or parent.

One lucky winner will receive a brand new Tomahawk Mountain Bike with the compliments of Tomahawk Bicycle Mall



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QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 213

1. Who is the new character in the 'Winnie the Pooh' stories and what inspired the author to introduce it?
2. What are beavers best known for?
3. When was the Disney Brothers Cartoon Studio founded?
4. Where is the Gaza Strip located?
5. What is the origin of Halloween?

All Funday Times readers between 8 – 15 years are eligible to participate.

(Those who have already won a bicycle are not eligible to participate.)

Closing Date: November 30, 2023

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7 – 9 AGE GROUP

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a t p e	s o e s h
_____	_____
n t a i p	a l e d m
_____	_____
p l p e a	s i p n
_____	_____

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7 - 9 years **WINNERS!**

- ▶ Mithum Jayawardana, Pita-Kotte
- ▶ Sara Hussain, Dehiwala
- ▶ Nethuli Wickramanayake, Galle
- ▶ Riyal Abdur Rahman, Dehiwala
- ▶ Ahishne Saravana Kumar, Colombo 13

Winners please call Funday Times on 2479333/2479337 and arrange to collect your prizes.

Golden Lion Tamarin

Lion tamarins take their name from their impressive manes — thick rings of hair reminiscent of Africa's great cats. The golden lion tamarin may be the most beautiful of the four lion tamarin species. Its abundant golden hair frames a charismatic black face and covers its small body and tail. Despite their name, these rare primates have far more in common with their monkey relatives than any feline.

Behaviour

The golden lion tamarin forms social family groups. Males help to raise their offspring, and often carry their young on their backs in between feedings. Tamarin young are usually twins.

Golden lions live primarily in the trees. They sleep in hollows at night and forage by day while travelling from branch to branch. Long fingers help them stay aloft and snare insects, fruit, lizards and birds.

Threats to Survival

These interesting animals are threatened, as are many of the forests in which they live. Brazil's Atlantic coastal rainforests are disappearing due to

ever-expanding logging, agriculture and industry, and unfortunately, the golden lion tamarin is in danger of vanishing with them.

By the 1970s, biologists estimated that only about 200 golden lion tamarins were left in the Atlantic Forest.

Monkey boot camp

Conservationists gathered at the Smithsonian Institution's National Zoo in Washington, D.C., in 1972 to develop a plan to save the species in the wild. Some zoos already had golden lion tamarins in captivity; all they had to do was breed more tamarins, then prepare some of the families to return to the wild. How? "We sent them to boot camp," says Kenton Kerns, assistant curator of small mammals at the National Zoo.

Going green

Nearly 2,500 golden lion tamarins now live in the Atlantic Forest. About a third of them are descended from 147 captive-born tamarins from the zoo program.

But conservationists aren't done. They continue to reforest the land and inspire young people to protect the animals.



Common Name:	Golden Lion Tamarin
Scientific Name:	<i>Leontopithecus rosalia</i>
Type:	Mammals
Diet:	Omnivore
Group Name:	Troop
Average Life Span in the wild:	15 years
Size:	Head and body: 7.5 to 8.75 inches; Tail: 10.25 to 13.5 inches
Weight:	14 to 29 ounces
IUCN Red List Status:	Endangered
Current Population Trend:	Stable



National Geographic



From our Young Reporters

Mental Resilience



With the rising problems all around the world increasing day by day, mental health has become an important factor to consider when treating patients.

According to the annual records of Statista, the number of patients diagnosed with severe depression has increased by 16.5% from 2002 to 2022 from reports in the US. This is not a fact to be taken lightly at all.

Mental Resilience is how one emotionally and mentally copes with a situation. Mental resilience is important to survive in the modern day where empathy and sympathy is lacking.

To become a psychologically resilient person and to avoid the unfavourable

mental conditions which lead to misery, there are important tips to follow. To pinpoint the main cause of low resilience, Emmy Werner had done a 40-year-long research, observing resilient people. Diversity in mental resilience between two people is mainly caused by the lifestyle each person leads. Research data from Statista in 2016, show that more than 70% of the human population suffers from work stress and more and more data show that patients who don't smoke, drink, or suffer from diabetes, but lead a stressful life which leads to the illness.

The first step to strong mental resilience is to be at peace with yourself,

understanding yourself, finding who you are and indulging in activities that bring peace to your mind. Engaging in nature, going for a walk at least two or three times a week and most importantly, facing obstacles, the more you face the challenges in life and with people, the more you learn to cope with your thoughts and the more you are able to control your emotions.

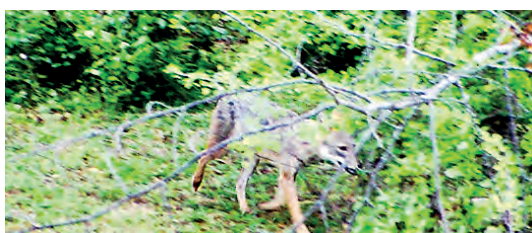
So, let's think good thoughts, do good to others, be peaceful and face the world with a smile.

Sethmi Hettiarachchi (13 years)
Musaeus College, Colombo 7

My visit to Udawalawe National Park

My visit to Udawalawe National Park was one of the most memorable experiences of my life. As a wildlife lover, I like to find out lots of information on Sri Lankan wildlife. The journey started from Pannipitiya in the western province to Udawalawe in the south. We stayed at a hotel for the night.

The next day, we saw some torque monkeys near the hotel. At 10.00 a.m., we went to the Udawalawe Elephant Transit Home. We visited at this time so that we could witness the feeding



The Golden Jackal, one of the island's most adaptable predators.

of the orphaned elephants. We were also able to see some sick animals that had been caught for treating. I was able to record some good videos with my camera.

At 3.00 p.m., we started our three and a half hour long safari in the Udawalawe National Park. We were taking chips with us. A group of torque monkeys followed us due to the smell of food.

The animals we spotted were elephants, spotted deer, hares, tortoise, water buffalo, crocodile, mongoose, peafowl, serpent eagle and a species of bird known as the Grey Hornbill. Our star sighting was a golden jackal. We didn't spot any leopards but we saw a buffalo that had been killed by a leopard. I recorded most of these sightings.

One memorable incident was a huge elephant coming right in front of the



The Sri Lankan Elephant, one of the most common mammals in Udawalawe.

jeep and approaching closer. We were frozen for some time.

This trip to Udawalawe National Park was fabulous. I have also been to the popular Yala National Park. I even saw a leopard in Yala, but the park was overcrowded and the sighting was horrible, so I'd say Udawalawe National Park is a better destination.

K. Dulain Sasnula (Grade 6)
Horizon College Int., Malabe

FUNDAY TIMES Young Reporters

If you are interested in joining as a Funday Times Young Reporter please fill in the coupon given and send it in to us along with a recent report or interview not exceeding 300 words. Photographs or illustrations would enhance the report.

Young Reporters who have already enrolled with us, please send in new reports for publication.



Or



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Young Reporters Coupon

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Telephone:

School:

Parent's approval: Date:

.....

Lavish tomb suggests Queen Meret-Neith may have been Egypt's first female ruler

November 14, 2023

Historians have long suspected that Queen Meret-Neith was the most powerful woman in Egypt around 3,000 BC.

Now, archaeologists have found evidence that indicates she may have been ancient Egypt's first female ruler. Before this, that honour belonged to Queen Hatshepsut (1507 BC - 1458 BC).

Queen Meret-Neith was the wife of King Djet and the mother of their heir, King Den. Her tomb complex in Abydos, Egypt, was first discovered in 1900 alongside the graves of 41 servants and courtiers. However, it is only recently that a team led by Christiana Köhler from the University of Vienna began excavating the monarch's burial chamber.

To their surprise, the archaeologists found many grave goods usually reserved for kings. Among them were hundreds of 5,000-year-old wine jars. Many were sealed and contained remains of wine and grape seeds. Additionally, inscriptions found inside the chamber indicated that the queen was responsible for central government offices such as the Treasury.



Queen Meret-Neith's tomb complex



5,000-year-old sealed wine jars were found in the grave

Previously, Meret-Neith's name had been found on a list of Egypt's ancient kings in her son's tomb. It was followed by the title "king's mother." This, together with the new evidence, led Köhler's team to conclude that Meret-Neith may have been Egypt's first female ruler. The team speculates that she took over for a few years after the death of her husband since her son was too young to rule.

But not everyone agrees with the new theory, revealed on October 9, 2023. Some experts argue that women were not accepted as leaders in ancient Egypt, especially this early on. "Wives and daughters were not typically considered in terms of royal successions," Dr. Margaret Maitland, a curator at the National Museums Scotland, told Live Science. However, she does admit that the new discoveries indicate the ancient queen had "an unusually high level of authority for a royal woman."



Preserved grape seeds from the jars found in the tomb

Köhler is not surprised by the skepticism. "There is indeed a lot of debate going on among Egyptologists as the evidence is not entirely conclusive," she says. "I'm almost sure that once we have completed the excavation of this huge complex, we will know more."

Even if she had the authority of one, Meret-Neith would not have been called a "pharaoh." The gender-neutral title, which translates to "great house," is believed to have been adopted much later by Queen Hatshepsut.

DOGO News

Iceland volcano: Where is it and when will it erupt?

November 13, 2023

An eruption could happen within "days" say scientists monitoring a volcano in Iceland.

The Fagradalsfjall volcano erupted for the first time in over 6,000 years in 2021, and is thought to have been causing a series of earthquakes since October of this year.

The discovery of an underground river of magma has led to the evacuation of 4,000 people from the nearby village of Grindavik and Iceland has declared a state of emergency.

Residents were allowed back to their homes to collect belongings but people have been told to leave once more, with the likelihood of eruptions "remaining high" according to the Icelandic Meteorological office.

Where is the volcano in Iceland?

The volcano is situated on the Reykjanes peninsula, around



Lava flowing from the erupting Fagradalsfjall volcano in 2021

20 miles away from the capital city of Iceland - Reykjavík.

Reykjanes peninsula is located in the south-west of Iceland, nearly 900 miles from the United Kingdom's mainland and around 650 miles from the Outer Hebrides - the closest location to Iceland in the UK.

CBBC Newsround



November 14

News in Pictures



Porto Jofre, Brazil
Smoke billows from forest fires in the Pantanal wetland in Mato Grosso state, which have been ravaging the Pantanal, the largest wetland on the planet. These fires are primarily caused by the use of slash-and-burn techniques for agriculture, and it has been exacerbated by an exceptional drought this year.



Los Angeles, USA
Rachel Zegler, a cast member in 'The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes' arrives at the premiere of the film at the TCL Chinese Theatre.



London, UK
Rishi Sunak chairs a meeting with his new cabinet including the foreign secretary, David Cameron, at 10 Downing Street following a reshuffle.



Ahmedabad, India
Hindu devotees light oil lamps in a formation of the Ayodhya Ram temple inside a temple to celebrate Diwali (also known as Deepavali) the Festival of Lights.

November 13

Paris, France
Thousands gather in front of the Palais Garnier opera house as dancers from across Europe perform 'Chiroptera'. The facade of the opera house was transformed into a philosophical allegory of Plato's cave as part of a new project by the French artist JR.



Catania, Italy
Mount Etna erupts and produces a volcanic cloud. The volcanic ash cloud has fallen on the south-east side of the volcano, particularly over the towns of Milo and Zafferana Etnea.



November 12

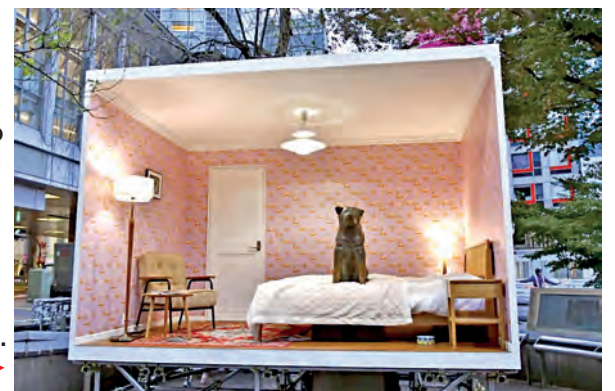
Bhaktapur, Nepal
People take part in the Hindu festival of Kukur Tihar, in which dogs are worshipped and fed treats to please Yama, the god of death.



London, UK
A cadet band marches through Wimbledon on Remembrance Sunday.



Tokyo, Japan
The Shibuya neighbourhood's statue of Hachiko sits in a bedroom as it is unveiled to the public for one day only, to mark the 100th anniversary of the dog's birth.



Source: The Guardian